

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 VANCOU 00789 221913Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 EB-08 /024 W  
-----005299 221916Z /43/66  
R 152121Z AUG 77  
FM AMCONSUL VANCOUVER  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3672  
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VANCOUVER 789

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (MRN 789 VICE 7415)

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EINV, CA  
SUBJECT: LAND OWNERSHIP

REF: STATE 185751

1. FOLLOWING CURRENT INFORMATION ON BRITISH COLUMBIA LAND OWNERSHIP REGULATIONS OBTAINED DIRECTLY FROM ASSISTANT DEPUTY MINISTER, MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT:

A. THERE ARE NO RPT NO RESTRICTIONS ON FOREIGN PRIVATE OWNERSHIP OF PRIVATE LAND IN B.C. PRIVATE LAND, HOWEVER, ONLY REPRESENTS APPROXIMATELY 6 PERCENT OF B.C. TOTAL LAND AREA.

B. B.C. LAND ACT OF 1970 (SECTION 7, SUBSECTION 3 (A AND B) PRECLUDES SALE OR LEASE OF CROWN LANDS TO OTHER THAN CANADIAN CITIZENS OR LANDED IMMIGRANTS. IN THE CASE OF CROWN LAND LEASES PRE-DATING THE 1970 LAND ACT, IT IS PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT POLICY TO CONTINUE TO RENEW THE LEASES UNLESS THE HOLDER WISHES TO DISPOSE OF HIS RIGHTS. IN THAT EVENT, THE NEW LEASE ASSIGNEE MUST BE A CANADIAN CITIZEN OR LANDED IMMIGRANT.

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C. ANY COMPANY, FOREIGN OR DOMESTIC, WHICH WISHES TO HOLD PRIVATE OR PUBLIC LANDS MUST BE REGISTERED IN BRITISH COLUMBIA UNDER THE CORPORATIONS ACT.

D. UNDER THE EXTANT LAND REGISTRY ACT, ANY TRANSACTION MUST SHOW THE CITIZENSHIP OF THE PURCHASER OR LESSEE (SEE

VANCOUVER'S A-35 OR JUNE 18, 1974).

2. COMMENT: ADM TOLD ECONOFF THAT A RECENT CRUDE COMPUTER SURVEY OF B.C. LAND ASSESSMENT ROLLS (BASED ON MAILING ADDRESSES OF PROPERTY OWNERS OR LEASE HOLDERS) INDICATES THAT THE EXTENT OF ALIEN LAND OWNERSHIP IS FAR LESS THAN PREVIOUSLY SUPPOSED. HE COMMENTED THAT HE HAD STRONGLY OPPOSED PROPOSALS UNDER THE FORMER NDP GOVERNMENT TO RESTRICT FOREIGN OWNERSHIP AND SINCERELY DOUBTS THAT THE PRESENT BENNETT GOVERNMENT HAS ANY INTENTION OF ADOPTING A RESTRICTIVE POLICY. PREMIER TOLD CONSUL GENERAL A YEAR AGO THAT HIS GOVERNMENT DOES NOT CONTEMPLATE CHANGING PRESENT LAND OWNERSHIP OR LEASING REQUIREMENTS. ENDERS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 STATE 185751  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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